increase the revenue as well as to ensure payment of outstanding dues.

(iv) Special programmes like Foundation Day Celebrations, Integrated Children's Development Programmes, New Year's Special Programmes etc. have been put under sponsored category.

Doordarshan is continuously taking various steps to improve the professional standards in the presentation of programmes at the Kendra. Latest techniques from all quarters are being adopted for improvement in quality of presentation' coverage.

Telecast of regular programmes for handicapped persons

†2437. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecast of regular programmes for handicapped persons on Doordarshan is under consideration;

(b) if so, by when it will be started; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that programmes relating to problems faced by handicapped persons are telecast by the regional Doordarshan Kendras from time to time. In the National Network, a news bulletin for the speech/hearing impaired is telecast every Sunday at 2.20 p.m. Also spots depicting the indomitable zest for leading a normal life by the handicapped, despite severe physical and other limitations are telecast in between the news bulletins.

(c) does not arise.

Pay scales of Announcers-cum-Translators of Languages

2438. SHRI P. SOUNDARARAJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.